

**THE****ENOS PARK BANNER**

ENOS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOC. INC.

**EPNIA  
MONTHLY  
MEETING****Tuesday,  
March 13, 7 pm****St. John's  
Assisi Room**

Sarah Mackey,  
Executive Director  
Habitat for Humanity  
Partnership & Projects

Report Crimes to  
Crime Stoppers  
**217-788-8234**

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**A New Partner**

Since our Urban Pioneer Tour last fall the Enos Park Development LLC has finalized agreements with "new neighbors" for four of the five residential and one of the two commercial properties that were available on the Tour. We have also secured two more homes and have individuals ready to start renovating. All of this in addition to the shotgun house we purchased, renovated, and sold within two months last spring, makes this a very busy and successful first year of operation.

However, as we start our second year, we are even more excited and pleased to announce a new partner in our efforts to revitalize the neighborhood. The Board of Directors of the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association have confirmed their support to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County.

This merger brings together the resources of both organizations to provide affordable housing for qualified homeowners. Habitat for Humanity provides funding with zero interest loans to applicants who can verify their financial capability and provide 250 hours of work on their own property. The construction project itself is supervised by Habitat's professional staff and complemented with volunteer workers from a large number of supporting groups.

Enos Park Development LLC will provide lots, design standards for new construction, volunteers, and its ongoing promotion and marketing of the Enos Park neighborhood. The construction of affordable housing is a key component of the Enos Park Master Plan which is modeled after the Fall Creek Place development in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Steve Combs, President of Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, talks to Brant Mackey and Wes Barr, President of Habitat for Humanity, regarding the partnership and projects of the two organizations.

The Fall Creek project has 50% of its homes qualify as affordable with overall home prices ranging from \$80,000 to \$300,000.

Enos Park is already recognized as one of the city's most historic areas with almost 90% of the 500 homes in the neighborhood having been built from 1850 to 1910. The large stock of older homes is the perfect place for Habitat to initiate its new program, "A Brush with Kindness," designed to assist home owners with the repair and renovation of the exterior of existing homes. This program is part of Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative, a holistic approach to assist communities as well as individual families. The Enos Park Development LLC

*Continued on page 2*

*Continued from page 1...*

had initiated a similar program last year, "Clean Up Green Up," which provided \$500 of matching funds for external improvement projects for current home owners. That program may be expanded in partnership with Habitat.

Join us Tuesday, 7 p.m., March 13th at the Assisi Conference Room in St John's Hospital to meet Sarah Mackey, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity. She will review with us the partnership and projects of mutual interest between our organizations.



This home on North Fourth Street is an example of a renovation project undertaken by Habitat for Humanity in the Enos Park neighborhood. The home was originally built in 1885. The Fever River Research study identified it as having excellent integrity and contributing to Enos Park's designation as a National Historic Neighborhood.

**WILD WEST FREE ESTIMATES**  
**LAWN AND HOME**  
**217-816-6998**  
 729 North Fourth St  
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**mowing, trimming, yard clean up  
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LOCAL BUSINESS \* FAMILY OWNED \* REASONABLE RATES

## Did You Know

By Steve Combs, President EPNIA

Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County was founded in 1989 and has built 86 homes for over 350 family members. Over the next five years (2012 -2016) the Habitat strategic plan calls for the construction of four (4) new homes each year for qualified homeowners.

The Habitat Board members have established a goal of constructing one (1) new home in Enos Park for the next five years and meet Enos Park design standards to complement the aesthetics of the older, historic homes of the neighborhood.

Habitat for Humanity will initiate a new program this year, "A Brush With Kindness", to repair and renovate the exterior of homes of qualified owners. The strategic plan calls for the exterior renovation of one (1) home each year in Enos Park.

Qualified homeowners must complete 250 hours of work on their homes and be able to pay a monthly mortgage payment at 0% interest over 15-35 years. Habitat is not only the construction company but also the mortgage lender for their Habitat families.



## The Enos Park Banner

Sponsored by the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, Inc. The editor is Marilyn R. Piland, 837 N. 8th St. Circulation is 500, distributed monthly on the first Tuesday of each month. To contribute an article, idea or place an ad, call 522-9381 or e-mail [m.piland@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.piland@sbcglobal.net) or fax 522-3060. The deadline for copy is the 20th.

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1/16 page \$15	\$37.50 for 3 mo.
1/8 page \$20	\$50.00 for 3 mo.
1/4 page \$40	\$100.00 for 3 mo.
1/2 page \$75	\$187.50 for 3 mo.
Full page \$125	\$312.50 for 3 mo.

visit us on the web at  
**www.EPNIA.com**

## Northside Children's Library

### Upcoming Events

The Northside Children's Library announces upcoming programs for the month of March.

**Origami Project:** Saturday, March 10th, 2012. 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Come and join us as we turn boring pieces of paper into beautiful works of art! There will be some project for any age or skill level. Ages 6-14. This program is free, but you must R.S.V.P. by March 8th by calling 528-9277, or by stopping in the library to sign up. Snacks provided after the program.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party:** Saturday, March 17th. 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Do not call Greg Heffley's journal a "diary!", and do not touch that cheese! Join us as we explore the hilarious hi-jinks of Greg Heffley, his brothers, and his classmates in this fun-filled program based on the book series "Diary of a Wimpy Kid".

We will be reading excerpts from the book, creating our own cartoon book, 'wimping' ourselves, playing a game of cheese touch, and battling one another in a game of toilet paper wrap. Boys only ages 6-12. This program is free, but limited. You must R.S.V.P. by March 15th by calling 528-9277, or by stopping in the library to sign up.

**Fancy Nancy Party:** Saturday, March 31st 2012. 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Bonjour! Do you like to dress up? Do you like to learn fancy new words? If so, you are cordially invited to a soirée (that's a fancy word for party) at the Northside Children's Community Library.

We will be reading a Fancy Nancy story, decorating "fancy" wands and crowns, rolling out the red carpet to model our creations, and learning some etiquette (that is a fancy word for manners) while having a fancy snack. Girls only ages 4-9. This program is free, but limited. You must R.S.V.P. by March 29th by calling 528-9277, or by stopping in the library to sign up.

## Featured Property

### 630 N. Fifth St.



### Stunning Turn of the Century Renovation!

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New inside and out  
All architectural details retained  
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## Moving Forward in 2012

I want to be a part of the revitalization of Enos Park Neighborhood. Here is my donation of \$25 for 2012 Membership, which entitles me to a copy of the Bylaws and voting privileges at the monthly meetings.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, Inc.  
821 N 5th St., Springfield, IL 62702

For more information, call 522-9381



## View from City Hall

By Sam Cahnman, Alderman, Ward 5

In my first term as alderman, I passed a law adding community service as an alternative punishment to a fine for violating our panhandling ordinance. Before that the only punishment was a fine. Obviously, most offenders did not have the money to pay the fine or they would not be panhandling.

This ordinance has worked so well that community police officer Joseph Phillips asked me to introduce community service as an alternative punishment for ordinance violations committed by minors. When a minor gets a fine for a curfew violation or underage drinking, it is their parents who usually pay the fine. The young ordinance violator feels no pain and therefore gets no remedial benefit when his or her parents pay the fine.

Therefore, for underage possession and consumption of alcohol and underage possession of tobacco and curfew violations, my ordinance would allow community service as an alternative to a fine or in conjunction with a reduced fine. Community service would also be allowed as a punishment for those violating our public trash and illegal dumping ordinance. There the community service could be picking up trash on the streets.

For alcohol violations, there would be an additional requirement that the violator attend alcohol classes, create a victim impact statement, or get alcohol counseling. For violation of the tobacco ordinance, the youth would have to attend a class or session on the danger of smoking.

The idea here is two-fold. First, to make the punishment better fit the crime, sentence trash violators to pick up trash, for example. The second is to nip in the bud potential problems that could and would arise from alcohol abuse and smoking.

Alcohol abuse wreaks tremendous havoc in our society, and smoking kills too many people way to early.

On a personal note, this is the last column I will write before the March 20th primary election, in which I am running for the Democratic nomination for State Representative in the new 96th District.

It has been more than 10 years since we have had a State Representative or Senator from the City of Springfield, and it has been even longer since we had one who lives in the urban core. I am the only candidate in the Democratic primary who lives in, fights for and represents older neighborhoods. Rehabilitation of older inner city neighborhoods of our downstate cities is essential to the viability and vibrancy of these cities. An advocate for this is sorely needed in the legislature, and I will be that advocate.

I am also the only candidate who:

- ◆ advocated for a State law to force banks and other financial institutions to maintain and secure the houses, upon which they are foreclosing. I am also the only candidate who co-sponsored the newly passed Springfield Abandoned Property ordinance, strongly supported by the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association;
- ◆ has served the people as their elected representative on the County Board and City Council, and was recently reelected to the Council.
- ◆ after graduating law school at the University of Illinois, worked for the Illinois General Assembly, drafting legislation.

I rest my case and humbly ask for your vote in the Democratic primary March 20th.

*Alderman Sam Cahnman, an attorney, can be reached at [samcahnman@yahoo.com](mailto:samcahnman@yahoo.com); 528-0200; fax 528-0311 or 915 S. 2nd St., Springfield, IL 62704*

## Report Nuisance Issues Call 787-ENOS

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*True Value*

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787-7225

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SPRINGFIELD  
596-7368

MON-FRI  
SATURDAY  
SUNDAY

7:30AM-6PM  
7:30AM-6PM  
8:30AM-5PM

MON-FRI  
SATURDAY  
SUNDAY

7:30AM-6PM  
7:30AM-5PM  
8:30AM-4PM

## 2012 EPNIA Officers

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## In The Garden

By Jerry Blackburn

The first of February last year we had a 13" record-breaking snowfall, followed two weeks later by a record-breaking 68 degrees. This year February has been unusually sunny and downright warm temperatures averaging 35° - 60° for the month. These conditions have been convenient, but with a lack of extreme lows, a percentage of insect eggs that are usually killed by those extreme temperatures — weren't. Most likely we will see more insect problems than usual. If this mild winter is followed by a cold, wet spring (as were the past two years) we will also have more disease to deal with... which proves: Gardening is always a challenge. It's a struggle when we try to control Mother Nature.

March will bring blooms of witch hazel, early daffodils and tulips, hyacinths, crocus and fruit trees. Spring is the gardener's busiest season. There is much to do. Here are some ideas:

**HOUSEPLANTS** - Wait till mid or late May to bring them outdoors. Most do not tolerate temperatures below 50 degrees without sustaining damage. The longer, brighter days of March and April are good times to propagate indoor plants.

**CLEANUP** - all you can, when you can, as the weather permits; the lawn, gardens, garage, patio furniture, garden tools, etc. Have the lawn mower serviced and ready to go.

**PLANT** - trees, shrubs and perennials as soon as they become available and the ground is ready to be worked. Grass seed is best sown between March 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup> for the best chance of long term success. Perennials that bloom in early spring can be moved or divided after bloom. Kale, onion, pea, spinach and turnip seed may be planted later this month. Transplants of onion, cabbage, potato, rhubarb, Brussels sprouts, asparagus and broccoli can also be planted later this month.

**ROSES** - should not be uncovered, pruned or watered till April. Their first feeding should be in May.

**FEED** - perennial beds with 10-10-10. Vegetables prefer 10-15-10 or 10-20-10. Do not feed ornamental grasses or hostas at all.

**LAWNS** - may be fed now if you feed them four times a year and water on a regular basis, otherwise wait till May. Dethatching and core aerification may be done now.

**WEED** - anytime you can. Crabgrass control should be applied when the soil reaches 50 degrees for three days.

**DIG** - as soon as the soil is ready. It should not be worked when it is too wet. Healthy soil contains air, which roots must have. Working wet soil drives out the air, changing the structure. If more than a small amount of soil clings to your garden fork or spade, it's too wet to work. Wait till it dries out some to work it.

**COMPOST** - If your compost is ready it can be worked into planting beds or used as a topdressing or mulch. Start a new compost pile with the refuse from your spring clean up.

**MULCH** - flower and vegetable beds, trees and shrubs to help retain water and reduce weeds.

**PRUNE** - fruit trees early this month before the buds swell. Prune grapes and raspberries if you didn't do it last month. Prune spring flowering shrubs after bloom. Maintenance pruning of dead, diseased, crossing or damaged branches or awkward growth may be done anytime of the year. Cut back any ornamental grasses or perennials that you left for winter effect, back to a couple of inches tall.

**WATER** - when your plants need it. We usually have plenty of rain in March, but it can get very dry in between rains. If perennials or bulbs are drooping it might not be the cold. Check to see if they're dry.

**SEED STARTING** - is not as difficult as many think. The most important cultural rules are: use sterilized commercial seed-starting soil, don't overwater, use bottom heat (75 or 80 degrees) for germination and once started, they must be grown in a bright cool place (an unheated spare room at 60 degrees with plenty of light is best). Seedlings like it best if the night temperatures drop a bit.

**ASK** - Master Gardeners are available to research and answer any horticultural questions you may have.

Call the University of Illinois Extension Service at 782-4617 or fax your question to 524-6662. E-mail address is Sangamon\_co@extension.uiuc.edu

**ENJOY!**

*Jerry Blackburn has been a garden designer for 30 years. He designs, installs, maintains and renovates perennial beds and borders. He was employed at Washington Park Botanical Gardens for 11 years.*



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**Community  
Health Corner**  
By Memorial Medical Center



### Choose a Rainbow of Colorful Fruits and Vegetables

It is time to liven up the color palette of our food choices naturally and gain health benefits. Memorial Medical Center registered dietitian Gayle Jennings, MS, RD, LDN, provides some tips on the benefits of choosing naturally colored fruits and vegetables.

**RED** – Red indicates produce that may help maintain a healthy heart, vision, immunity and may reduce cancer risks. In the red category, we find phytochemicals, which can neutralize cancer-causing substances by decreasing free radicals in our bodies.

Red choices are cherries, cranberries, pomegranates, red or pink grapefruits, red grapes, watermelons, beets, red onions, red peppers, red potatoes, rhubarbs and tomatoes. Don't forget about red kidney beans, which are a great source of fiber and have the ability to remove free radicals from the body.

**ORANGE & YELLOW** – Orange and deep yellow fruits and vegetables contain nutrients that promote healthy vision and immunity; they also reduce the risk of some cancers. These include apricots, cantaloupes, grapefruits, mangos, papayas, peaches, pineapples, carrots, yellow peppers, corn, squash and sweet potatoes.

Orange carrots and yellow squash contain lutein in the pigments, which is good for vision and may slow down or prevent the thickening of the arteries, a risk factor for cardiovascular disease.

**GREEN** – Green produce indicates antioxidant potential and may help promote healthy vision and reduce cancer risks.

Green fruits are avocados, apples, grapes, honeydews, kiwis and limes. More than iceberg lettuce and green beans, good-for-you vegetables are artichokes, asparagus, broccoli, green peppers and leafy greens such as spinach. Avocados used to be labeled "bad," but have moved to the "in moderation" category because they are high in monounsaturated fat (good fat), potassium, B vitamins and fiber.

**PURPLE & BLUE** – Purple and blue options may have antioxidant and anti-aging benefits and may help with memory, urinary tract health and reduced cancer risks.

Good options are blackberries, blueberries, plums, raisins, eggplants, purple cabbages and purple-flesh potatoes.

**WHITE, TAN & BROWN** – While the white, tan and brown fruits and vegetables may not jump out at you for the color content, the nutrient content is strong. They can help promote a healthy heart and reduce cancer risks.

In this category, we find bananas, brown pears, dates, white peaches, cauliflower, mushrooms, onions, parsnips, turnips, white-flesh potatoes and white corn.

## RAFFLE NIGHT

for Ronald McDonald House  
Charities of Central Illinois

Join Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois (RMHCCI) for Longaberger Raffle Night — play 20 games of raffle while supporting RMHCCI!

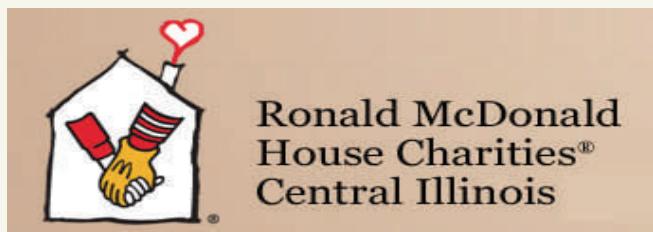
The raffle event is on Thursday, March 29 at Sangamon Prairie Reception Center in Chatham. Doors open at 5pm and Raffle starts at 6pm.

Ages 18 & up are invited to attend, and there will be a cash bar along with food and drinks to purchase at the venue. There will also be a raffle with great prizes! Register by March 14 for an entry to win the prize in the pre-registration raffle! There are many ways to participate: a single pack of cards for \$25; double-pack for \$35; invite your business to sponsor a game of raffle & a night's stay for a family at Ronald McDonald House for \$60; sponsor a table for \$225--including 20 raffle tickets & 1 free player.

A Longaberger basket prize will be given to the 1st raffle winner of each game! This event is for fans of raffle games, fans of Longaberger, and fans of supporting a good cause! Please visit [rmhc-centralillinois.org](http://rmhc-centralillinois.org) for more information & to register.

RMHCCI exists to provide a home away from home for families with children seeking medical treatment in Springfield, IL. Over 400 families from Illinois and all over the world are served each year through the wonderful support of the central Illinois community.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Illinois (RMHCCI) is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization that has served families for over 26 years. Proceeds from Longaberger Raffle Night will directly benefit our Ronald McDonald House.



The next time you are at the grocery store, take a little more time in the produce section. Purchase and enjoy some of the examples here to add the potential benefits from this colorful-eating plan. And remember that frozen fruits and vegetables are also a simple and quick way to consume colorful nutrients.

**In the Neighborhood**

By Officer Ryan Irwin

Over the past several weeks we have continued to investigate several burglaries to vehicles occurring in the city. The majority of these reports include unlocked vehicles sitting in driveways or alongside of the street.

I would like to take this time to remind everyone to never leave valuables in your car, especially visible to people passing by. GPS units, radar detectors, iPods, purses, clothing items, and loose change are among the items most often taken. It doesn't take long for a person to walk by several vehicles, look in them and take items that are visible, especially when the vehicle is unlocked. Help deter this kind of crime by keeping your valuables safe and out of the public eye. When you exit your vehicle take an extra minute to look back in it and verify nothing of value is sitting out in plain sight.

We have also been investigating several copper thefts in the area. The suspects seem to target vacant houses, houses for rent, houses for sale, and air conditioner units sitting on the ground. If you see suspicious activity around a vacant home please call it in so the police can investigate it. Not only can it help prevent some of these types of thefts, we can also notify the proper people to get a house boarded/secured if it is open to trespass. Call the police for any suspicious activity. For emergencies call 911, for the non-emergency police number dial 788-8311.

**Remember to always report suspicious activity!**

**Police Emergency dial 911**

**Police Non-Emergency 788-8311**

**Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery  
FUNDRAISER**

**Friday, March 23**

**8- midnight**

**Capitol City Bar and Grill**

Blues music from a St. Louis area blues group  
Open mic jam session with local musicians

More information;

Mini O'Beirne Crisis Nursery 525-6800.



# SAM CAHNMAN

DEMOCRAT for  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE



*Sam is the only Candidate who lives, works in and has fought for our older inner city neighborhoods. We need him fighting for us in the State House!*



**Vote for Sam Cahnman for State Representative In the Democratic Primary, March 20th.**

## At Home in the Park

By Lola L. Lucas

Weeping willows and oak trees are obvious. So are sassafras, what with those red stems with the distinctive sarsaparilla taste when you bite into them. I learned that much at summer camp. But it didn't really prepare me for the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois. I drove through it for the first time some years ago and was amazed by the sheer variety, so many species and all neatly labeled. "It's a zoo for trees!" I exclaimed.

Like any zoological or botanical garden, the arboretum's mission involves educating the public while also preserving, maintaining, even increasing and improving what it is that they protect. I have an immodest proposal for you. Let's make Enos Park a zoo for buildings.

I got the idea from a Feb. 16th article in the Illinois Times by James Krohe, Jr. titled "There Goes the Neighborhood: Finding New Home for Historical Houses." How could I not love it? He started out with a very Lola-esque lead, "Buildings are like people. Even when they get too old and decrepit to work, their examples can still teach." Amen, brother Jim!

I spent the rest of the article writhing in envy of his well-phrased arguments as he preached to my particular choir. The topic was the decision of the National Park Service to build four structures in the Lincoln home area rather than to move and re-use authentic period houses that may otherwise be demolished.

"If the city's Lincoln-era structures are threatened where they stand, why not move them?" he wrote. "Moving historic houses is a sort of architectural and historical witness protection program in which vulnerable structures are removed to places where they can be safe from their enemies. It's been done many times in Springfield and central Illinois." He mentioned several examples including the oft-moved Iles House.

Krohe is exactly right, too, that there are historic village areas in other parts of Illinois and the United States that form a sort of reservation, a protected plot of land for buildings with a link to the early days of the towns. Naper Settlement, for example, is an outdoor history museum on 12 acres of city-owned grounds in Naperville with 30 buildings. I've driven past and seen plenty of people wandering between the structures even on a weekday.

Think about it, the National Park Service doesn't want Lincoln-era buildings for the Lincoln home grounds. We, however, have been cheerfully demolishing some structures that really and for true needed it, and we have vacant lots. Come on, folks! This is as obvious as Elvis-is-alive sightings when set next to the number of Elvis impersonators! Let's invite historic structures to move to Enos Park to reach a critical mass of Lincoln-era buildings. This truly is where Abraham

walked, dined, and proposed to Mary Todd at Edwards Place. We are the real deal as surely as New Salem is!

I'm not suggesting going overboard on this—no churning butter on front porches or wearing bonnets and hoop skirts to sashay around Shop'n'Save. (Although if anyone wanted to dress up as though heading to work at the Springfield Watch Company or Reisch Brewing, that would be cool.) It's just that buildings once lost cannot ever be restored.

Who has the funds to recreate another Orpheum Theater? It cost \$2,000,000 to build in 1927 which, according to my English major math skills, equals in today's dollars a LOT. Even the most perfect replica is only an imitation which was not actually part of the flow of history. What's the value of the actual Emancipation Proclamation compared to even the most perfect copy of it in the museum gift shop?

There are people who have a deep and abiding hatred for "old stuff." My sister is one of them; if it isn't new, she doesn't want it. Maybe that's a genetic thing, I don't know. She'd probably hate the Vachel Lindsay house being filled with things that belonged to people who are now dead.

Others love what's old and authentic. I sat in the parlor of Lindsay's house and breathed in the fact that the poet had moved through those rooms, too. Some people get it, some people don't, but we all have to live with decisions about whether to keep or discard our community's history.

Krohe wrapped up his article with "That means that most of the Lincoln-era structures not already protected... eventually will end up like Lincoln, dead and buried. There is nothing sadder than a house without a home." Let's welcome endangered houses to come and live — and to come alive! — in Enos Park.

Lola Lucas is the author of *At Home in the Park: Loving a Neighborhood Back to Life*, about Springfield in general and Enos Park in particular. You can find it at Amazon.com & other online booksellers.

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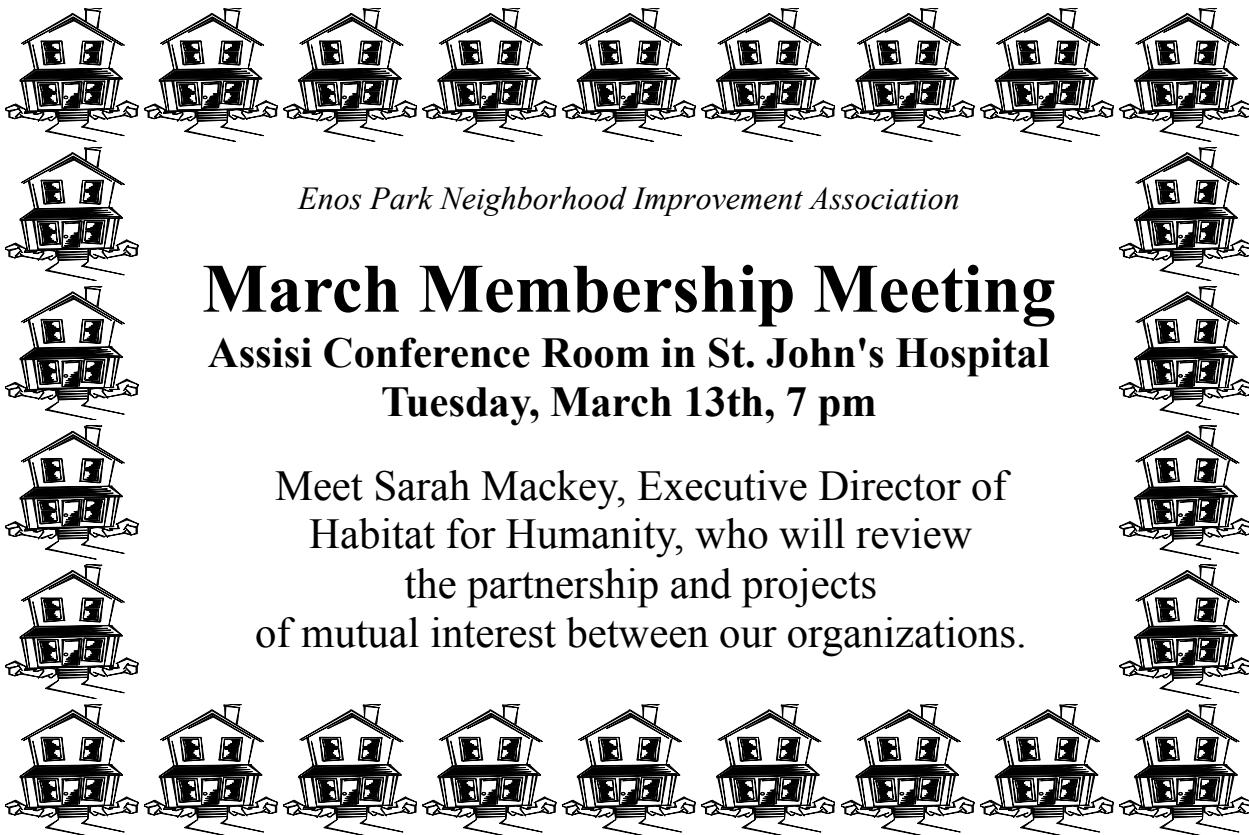
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Return Service Requested

**MARCH 2012**

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	Steve Combs
	Michelle Higginbotham
	Officer Ryan Irwin
	Lola Lucas



*Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association*

## **March Membership Meeting**

**Assisi Conference Room in St. John's Hospital**  
**Tuesday, March 13th, 7 pm**

Meet Sarah Mackey, Executive Director of  
Habitat for Humanity, who will review  
the partnership and projects  
of mutual interest between our organizations.